



NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE

October 5, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: 2 Collisions—Train vs. Car and Car vs. House

Two separate collisions occurred in Newark on the night of Monday October 4. The first was at 7:17 p.m. at the West Main Street CSX railroad crossing. Sajjad Ahmed was driving eastbound on W. Main St. At the crossing, he turned left onto the tracks, causing the car to become stuck. Ahmed was unable to dislodge the car, so he exited the vehicle and called for help. A northbound train arrived at the crossing within three minutes of the car becoming stuck, and before train traffic could be stopped by CSX. The train struck the rear of the unoccupied car and pushed it approximately 100 feet before stopping.

The car incurred significant damage to the entire back half of the vehicle. Sajjad Ahmed, a 60 year-old male from Export, PA, was cited for an Improper Left Turn. The car was a silver 2011 Hyundai Sonata. The train blocked the crossings at W. Main St., New London Rd., and N. College Ave for about one hour. After the investigation was completed, the train was able to continue on its way.

Any information about this collision should be reported to Cpl. Michael Szep at 302-366-7110 ext 408 or Michael.Szep@cj.state.de.us.

The second occurred at 9:50 p.m. when a 1996 GMC Sonoma pick-up being driven eastbound on Rahway Drive struck a parked 2002 Chevrolet S10 pick-up that was legally parked along the curb near the intersection with Casho Mill Road. The Sonoma pushed the S10 across Casho Mill Road, where the S10 came to rest along the curb on the east side of the roadway. The Sonoma also struck a stop sign at the intersection of Rahway Drive and Casho Mill Road, continued across Casho Mill Road, and left the east side of the roadway. The Sonoma then crashed through a fence in the rear yard of a house in the 300 block of Vassar Dr, drove through the rear yard, and drove through another portion of the same fence. The vehicle then turned slightly right, struck the garage of a neighboring house, and came to rest. The impact left an approximate three feet by three feet hole in the exterior garage wall.

It is believed that the operator, Samuel Singleton, 86 years-old, from Elkton, MD suffered some type of medical event that preceded the collision. Additionally, he suffered a laceration to his face as a result of the collision and was transported by ambulance to Christiana Hospital. No charges had been filed at the time of this release.



PRESS RELEASE, Continued

The Sonoma incurred disabling damage and was towed from the scene. The S10 had less severe damage and did not need to be towed. The struck house was inspected by a representative of the Newark Building department. There was no structural damage and the residents were able to stay inside the house.

Information related to this collision should be reported to Cpl. William Barrett at 302-366-7110 ext 419 or William.Barrett@cj.state.de.us.

The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Media Contact: Lt. Brian Henry, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or brian.henry@cj.state.de.us.